

House Resolution 1443

By: Representative Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 18, 2010, as Parkinson's Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a brain disorder that was first described in 1817 by British  
4 physician, Dr. James Parkinson; and

5 WHEREAS, the disease is characterized by four major features, the shaking of a limb while  
6 at rest, slowness of movement, rigidity of the limbs or the trunk, and poor balance; and

7 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease affects men and women in almost equal numbers and shows  
8 no social, ethnic, economic, or geographic boundaries; and

9 WHEREAS, the disease affects one in 100 people over the age of 60, with the average age  
10 of onset at 60 years, but has been known to occur at younger ages, with five to ten percent  
11 of all cases in individuals 40 and younger; and

12 WHEREAS, the process of diagnosing Parkinson's disease can be challenging because no  
13 X-ray, blood tests, or brain scans can confirm the presence of the disease; and

14 WHEREAS, after Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease is the most common  
15 neurodegenerative disease, with symptoms progressively worsening over time; and

16 WHEREAS, many organizations throughout this nation and Georgia strive to provide  
17 patients and care givers with support and resources necessary to fight Parkinson's disease and  
18 are conducting diligent research to find a cure; and

19 WHEREAS, individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their families demonstrate  
20 courage and determination daily, and their strength in the face of adversity is worthy of  
21 recognition.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
23 the members of this body commend the work organizations devoted to finding a cure for  
24 Parkinson's disease and to supporting the individuals and families whose lives are affected  
25 by this disease and recognize February 18, 2010, as Parkinson's Day at the state capitol.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
27 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to members of the public and  
28 the press.